

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Dan from Greensburg, Pennsylvania, wrote to me. He said:

I am having very serious difficulties with the new health care. I called a place from the marketplace today inquiring about an affordable plan for my wife. I currently pay about \$300 per month through my employer just for her coverage, but she has lost her job. The marketplace premium for her beginning in January will be over \$800 per month. How do you think this is affordable coverage? This is a 200 percent increase, or more, for me. My wife and I both have bills to pay. I will lose my house if I pay this outrageous premium. I will find it to be necessary to drop her from coverage. I would have been willing to do my share in this, but this increase is way beyond my reach. I will not be able to cover my wife now. I am 62 years old. I had a major heart attack 3 years ago. I was revived four times during my heart attack and then had complications which required emergency abdominal surgery to save my life again. I am back to work, but I have medical expenses, and now my premium just for my wife is doubling. I am sorry for being angry, but I feel cheated. I am not able to afford the outrageous premiums, and I will not be able to cover my wife.

Mr. Speaker, this breaks your heart.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, really I felt compelled to come because let's really talk about what this is. This is the 44th time to try to deny people access to health care. That is what it is.

If you listened to some of my colleagues, you would think that all Americans are being denied health care coverage. Number one, we are talking about 5 percent, and 5 percent is too much. So what the President did today was to say that we are going to make sure that those individuals who have lost their coverage, if the insurance companies will stand up, they will do the right thing.

What this says is that what we know is that there are 36 States, most of them headed by Republicans, that have already decided they didn't want to get involved; they didn't want State exchanges. So they wanted to make sure to deny individuals who have pre-existing diseases.

You could come and talk about the people who are saying, Thank you, Mr. President, for the Affordable Care Act. Because of my preexisting condition, I had been turned down by insurance companies. With Affordable Care, that won't happen.

Young people who don't have insurance, up to age 26, they will still be covered because of the Affordable Care Act.

What this is is a process and an attempt to try to end the Affordable Care Act for the 44th time. Let's not do that. Let's give the people the right to health care.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, in 2003, 5-year-old Isabelle Jane was diagnosed with leukemia, a disease that has driven the decisions her family has made since that time on where to live, what doctors to have, what insurance to gain. She had daily chemotherapy for 3 years and is now in remission.

But 18 months ago, she started to have side effects from this disease. It affected her heart, her bones, and her cognitive processing. Since that time, and since ObamaCare was passed, her insurance rates have more than doubled, and she was told this year that their insurance would be canceled by the end of this year. As Isabelle Jane's mother wrote:

The Affordable Care Act has seriously threatened my family's way of life. For over 10 years, we have had the coverage we have needed to care for our family. I defy anyone who says the insurance we currently have is not enough. My daughter is living proof that it is.

Mr. Speaker, these people are being hurt by the present system, and that needs to change.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. McCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, by the government's own numbers, for every American who has found health coverage under ObamaCare since it rolled out, some 50 Americans have lost their health insurance on the individual market, but that doesn't account for the many millions more who are losing employer insurance or are losing wages as a direct result of the Democrats' ObamaCare fiasco.

One such family is the Howard Asbury family in Mariposa, California. Mr. Asbury writes:

I am a retired union carpenter, and I am covered under the union's retiree health plan. When I retired, my wife went to work in the billing department for an ambulance company. Yesterday, she was informed by the owner that he was dropping all health care coverage and cutting all employees below supervisor to part-time. We will be able to enroll her and our two children under my retirement health plan through my union, although this does not address the loss of income. So now we have to pay for her coverage and the children on \$440 less income.

Mr. Speaker, my office is being flooded by such complaints. I have to believe that our colleagues across the aisle are hearing the same things. Why aren't they listening?

OBAMACARE

(Mr. LOBIONDO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to indicate, as many of my col-

leagues have, that beyond the so-called glitches and hiccups of the Web site, that the President's health care bill simply is not working. In fact, it is hurting.

Since the President's health care bill was signed into law, I have seen the anxiety, the confusion, and the genuine fear of south Jersey families, employers, employees, and of health care professionals; and for 4 years the conversations around the kitchen table and the water coolers have been about this anxiety and uncertainty. That has turned to real fear—fear and anger.

Terry from Millville told me that both her mother and her mother-in-law had current plans, and they were very happy with them. They were canceled under the President's health care bill, only to be replaced by plans with higher copays and premiums.

Randy from Scullville wrote on my Facebook that his monthly premiums are now \$2,500, a full \$700 more than before.

Lou, who opened a small business less than 2 years ago, hired more than 50 people and is going to have to make them part-time. This simply is not working, and it is wrong.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. HASTINGS of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, we all heard President Obama say, If you like your health care plan, you can keep, period.

A constituent of mine from Yakima, Gary Bailey, writes:

My wife and I are self-employed. Our provider just sent us a letter telling us that, due to the Affordable Care Act, our policy will no longer be available and we will have to choose a new policy.

He went on to say:

The least expensive policy is double the cost of my original policy, and the deductible went up to \$10,000.

Mr. Speaker, Gary is not alone. Millions of hardworking Americans have lost the insurance they like and can afford. The Keep Your Health Plan Act that we will vote on tomorrow fulfills President Obama's promise, even if he won't.

YAKIMA, WASHINGTON.

REPRESENTATIVE HASTINGS, I have to write to tell you what has just happened to me regarding my health insurance with Regence Blue Shield. My wife and I are self-employed and do not get insurance from our employer. We cannot afford a luxury policy in fact our policy was major catastrophic with a \$3500 deductible. Our provider just sent us a letter telling us that, due to the "Affordable Care Act," our policy will no longer be available and that we will have to choose a new policy.

The least expensive policy is double the cost of my original policy and the deductible went up to \$10,000.

President Obama said that our health care would go down \$2,500. Our cost for one of us went up \$1,632. I am sorry Congressman Hastings, but the President and all the democrat party has not been truthful and you need to

defund Obamacare. Most of America doesn't want it and I can't afford it!

Please listen to your constituents! Thank you for your time.

GARY BAILEY.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. DENHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, all we are asking is the President keeps his word. I have got hundreds of letters now from constituents from all across my entire district.

Nate from Oakdale says:

Before the Affordable Care Act, our health coverage was \$279 a month for me and my wife. We recently got a letter in the mail stating that our plan is no longer available due to the Affordable Care Act and that our premium will be \$434.60 a month, an increase of \$155.60.

Tom from Ceres says:

Farm Bureau has informed me that my med insurance will be canceled in January 2014. My premium will increase 170 percent for now.

Valerie from Denair:

My policy was canceled. In shopping for a new plan, I see that my monthly cost will at least triple for inferior coverage.

These lists go on and on and on.

Dawn from Turlock says:

I just received a letter today from my health care provider, and they have notified us our health care insurance has just doubled.

We owe it to the American people that this does not go on any longer. The President needs to fulfill his promise.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. WENSTRUP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give voice to my constituents. While I would expect that ObamaCare's thousands of pages would help at least a handful of people, a sampling of mail coming into any office lets me know that help by the Affordable Care Act is rare.

Steve from Greenfield says he and his wife are in good health with current insurance costing \$485 a month. Under ObamaCare, that goes to roughly \$1,150 a month, a 237 percent increase.

June from Batavia received a letter from UnitedHealthcare. They are discontinuing coverage for most of her family's doctors. And while she says she can handle it, it will be a problem for her husband. He has stage 4 kidney disease and is on dialysis and will soon not have his doctors.

Don from Loveland says:

If the Affordable Care Act is allowed to stand, my family will have to come up with an extra \$6,600 next year. We can't afford that.

Mr. Speaker, from what I am seeing, stress and anxiety are becoming an increasingly common diagnosis, all due

to ObamaCare. The Web site isn't the only problem, Mr. Speaker, the law is the problem.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. MESSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, once again today the President said to the American people, if you like your health care plan, you can keep it—at least for 1 more year, if you're lucky. The problem is saying something many times does not magically make it come true.

Right now, only 701 people in the State of Indiana have been able to sign up for insurance through the Affordable Care Act exchanges. According to the Indiana Department of Insurance, more than 108,000 Hoosiers will receive or have received cancellation letters.

One of those people is Michael Sturgis of Greensburg. He called my office after receiving a cancellation letter from his insurance company. Michael was told his monthly premium was going to increase from \$397 a month to \$831 a month. His \$5,000 deductible will go up to \$7,300.

That is unacceptable, and it is certainly not affordable. That is why we need to pass H.R. 3350, the Keep Your Health Plan Act of 2013, and let the American people remain in charge of their health care.

□ 1700

OBAMACARE

(Mr. STUTZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans find themselves in the heartbreaking situation of losing their health care plans thanks to a broken promise that the White House is not scrambling to try and fix.

Hoosiers like Jared from Woodburn, Indiana, were told that they could keep their plans. Unfortunately, Jared found this cancellation letter in his mailbox on September 23. He is just one of the more than 3.5 million Americans who lost coverage under ObamaCare.

For Jared, the timing couldn't have been worse. In the middle of selling their home and making an offer on another, Jared, his wife, and 1-year-old son were hit with a cancellation letter and the real possibility that their health care costs will become unaffordable.

President Obama's health care law is hurting Hoosiers. If he is serious about helping Americans like Jared, he should start by keeping his promise and signing the Keep Your Health Plan Act as soon as it is passed.

Enough is enough.

ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD,
San Antonio, TX, September 23, 2013.

DEAR JARED SCHORTGEN: Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is discontinuing your

individual health benefit plan because it doesn't meet all the requirements of the new health care reform laws (also called the Affordable Care Act). As a convenience to you, we're transitioning you to a health care reform compliant plan upon your renewal date. Your current individual health benefit plan will remain in effect until 01-Jan, 2014.

Don't worry, we've got options for you! We've selected a new plan for you that meets the new requirements. This new plan, ANTHEM CORE DIRECTACCESS WITH HSA-CABP is available at \$669.82. You don't need to do anything; you will automatically transition into your new individual health benefit plan. For additional plan details and to view a copy of the Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) go to sbc.anthem.com/dps/CCD0S6M.

Or, we can help you choose a different plan. Just talk to your Anthem agent, go to anthem.com and click "Changemycoverage", or call a Health Plan Advisor at 855-809-2879 to find a plan that's right for you. You may choose any of the health care reform compliant individual health benefit plans that we offer.

You can also check into whether you're eligible for a government subsidy to help you pay for your health coverage. If you are, you could buy an Anthem plan on the government-run Health Insurance Marketplace (also called the "exchange").

Your current individual health benefit plan is still in effect until 01-Jan, 2014. If you choose to automatically move into the plan we selected for you, payment of the new premium will be considered acceptance into your new plan, ANTHEM CORE DIRECTACCESS WITH HSA-CABP at \$669.82. If your premium is currently withdrawn electronically from your account this will continue upon your transition. If you have questions, please call your Anthem agent or Health Plan Advisor team at 855-809-2879. Representatives are here Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Eastern time.

Sincerely,

ROBERT W. HILLMAN, CLU,
President and General Manager,
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. LAMBORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, my office has been flooded with constituents calling to share their Obama horror story.

Take Nicole Butler, for instance, a constituent of mine living in Colorado Springs and a mother of three children. Her family's Humana insurance plan was canceled because it was deemed insufficient under ObamaCare. She is currently paying \$431 per month for what is, in her words, a great plan. She and her husband are insuring their family of five within a tight budget. The cheapest ObamaCare plan she could find would cost her family \$1,003 per month in premiums, more than twice as much. This is the same story for 250,000 other Colorado families who have been canceled.

Mr. Speaker, the American people took our President at his word when he said "If you like your plan, you can keep it."

I look forward to legislation which will give relief to families in Colorado and all over this country.